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25 July 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY PROJECT DIRECTOR

SUBJECT : Follow-up Items from Wiesbaden Trip

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1. Reference [] dated 20 July 1956, the following comments are forwarded:

a. Reference paragraph 1. The arrangements made to have exposed film from both Adana and Germany returned by the Blue-plate Special meets with no objection from Operations. Apparently it is considerably better and offers considerably better service than previous arrangements.

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b. Reference paragraph 2. The present [] (the alert message) is under study and will be changed to afford the detachments with more information concerning actual routes at the time of the mission alert. There has been no reason in the past to withhold information from detachments and the purpose of the [] has been to give them only the information that was considered necessary in getting the aircraft and equipment ready for a possible mission.

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c. Reference paragraph 3. [] will discuss the problem of Initial Points and pre-Initial Points during his current trip. This problem has appeared before and I believe it is only a matter of getting the Headquarters and detachments to talk in the same terms. I feel this problem will be resolved by the time [] returns.

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d. Reference paragraph 4. Annex 1 to the 48-hour report has been discontinued.

e. Reference paragraph 5. I recommend that we leave our six-digit reporting system as is. The purpose of this system is not necessarily to give the percentage of clouds over a given area as much as it is to give the percentage of the earth's surface that is visible. This report is invaluable in assessing the probable coverage from a mission. I realize there is a considerable amount of work involved, however, because of the importance of this information. I suggest that we continue on in accordance with our present policy.

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f. Reference paragraph 6. This system should increase the meaning and value of our present reporting system.

25X1 g. Reference paragraph 7. [] has investigated this problem and I believe has taken the necessary action to prevent erroneous information from being transmitted in the future. The particular case cited was caused by a communications error. However, a similar error was caused by one of the forecasters slipping up.

25X1 h. Reference paragraph 8. This problem has been discussed with [] and all messages will be plotted before dispatch.

25X1 i. Reference paragraph 9. Reference is made to our meeting with [] I believe the arrangements agreed upon there should take care of the notification of both USAFE and 12th Air Force in this matter.

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Colonel, USAF
Director of Operations

MCM:aem

Cys 1 & 2 - addressee
3 - Ops subj file
4 - Admin chron
5 - Ops chron

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